

BAYARD LONG (1885-1969)

Bayard Henry Long was born on September 22, 1885, and died on June 9, 1969. His father was John Luther Long, a Philadelphia lawyer who was born and raised in Hanover, York County, Pennsylvania.

The elder Long's sister had gone as a missionary to Japan in the early 1890's and had married the Rev. J. H. Correll. A few years later the Corrells returned to Philadelphia where Bayard's father had established a law practice. Over dinner one evening the Corrells related to Long the story of an American naval officer who had married a geisha girl in Nagasaki. Such marriages were then considered temporary arrangements, which could easily be annulled. The bride in this case who had given birth to a child, took a different view of the matter and, when her "husband" returned to Japan with his American wife, killed herself.

John Luther Long, who had turned to writing as a sideline, added a few embellishments to this story and it was published in the Century Magazine in 1898. Later David Belasco adapted it as a play which was a success on Broadway in 1900 and at Belasco's suggestion Giacomo Puccini used the story as the basis for his opera "Madame Butterfly" which is recorded as a failure in its premiere in Milan in 1904, but later, after revision, became a great success and is still a standard offering in the repertoire of the world's great opera companies.

The elder Long had established himself as a novelist and playwright and one of his most successful achievements was "The Darling of the Gods" produced by Belasco and starring Blanche Bates. Long died October 31, 1927.

Very little is known of the early years and young manhood of John Luther Long's son, Bayard. We know that he attended Cheltenham High School, not far removed from his father's house in Ashbourne (now Elkins Park), a suburb of Philadelphia, and that upon his graduation in 1904 he was the Orator of his class. He then attended the Uni-



Bayard Long, Hampden Lake, New Jersey, August 1940.

versity of Pennsylvania, where he majored in Botany and in June, 1908, was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Biology. He later registered in Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at the University, but apparently did not receive a graduate degree.

Just when Bayard Long became affiliated with the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences the Academy's records do not reveal, but it was probably while he was still taking courses in Botany at the University. We know that he became a member of the Philadelphia Botanical Club in 1906 and that in 1913 he was elected Curator of the Club's Local Herbarium, a position to which he was annually re-elected until the year of his death. Thus, his custodianship of one of the country's finest local herbaria spanned an interval of 56 years. At no time during his career did Bayard accept any salary from the Academy.

The Philadelphia Botanical Club had been founded in December, 1891, by a group of amateur botanists who were enthusiastically devoted to studying the flora of the Philadelphia local area. By their definition this area comprised all of southern New Jersey and southeastern Pennsylvania, as well as Harford County, Maryland and New Castle County, Delaware.

For many years members of the Club explored and collected in the numerous plant habitats included in this area, e.g; the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, the glaciated portions of Northampton County, the serpentine outcrops of Chester and Lancaster Counties, etc. Long was a frequent member of these expeditions and early demonstrated his keenness as an observer and his superb ability as a collector.

The early issues of *Bartonia*, the official publication of the Club, were filled with accounts of the exciting finds made on these trips and the cases in the Local Herbarium (housed at the Academy) were soon bulging with specimens from all corners of the local area.

It is doubtful that anyone ever possessed a higher standard for the quality of an herbarium specimen than Bayard Long. Every leaf had to be laid out flat, every inflorescence

properly displayed, every flower part clearly shown. Extra flowers and loose fruits and seeds were placed in pockets affixed to the sheet. Root systems (collected in their entirety whenever possible) were scrupulously clean, habitats were accurately described and localities were identified to the nearest tenth of a mile and closest compass point. All of this seems the more remarkable when it is realized that Long collected close to 80,000 numbers, not including collections made as a member of Fernald's expeditions.

It was inevitable that a man of Long's keen intelligence and critical judgement should come to the attention of Professor M. L. Fernald. In 1911 Fernald wrote, "since Mr. Long has on other occasions shown keen discrimination in his study of the Cyperaceae, it is a pleasure permanently to associate his name with the new *Scirpus Longii* n.sp." (*Rhodora* 13. 6. 1911) During the years that followed Fernald named nine other species in Long's honor.

Between July 2 and September 9, 1920, Long joined the Gray expedition under Fernald to Nova Scotia (see *Rhodora* 23: 94. 1921) and in 1924 and 1925 he was a member of the party which explored Newfoundland. It was in his "Journal of the Summer of 1925" that Fernald stated, "If there is a keener collector or discoverer of native plants than Bayard Long, I have yet to meet him". (*Rhodora* 28: 94. 1926.)

I first met Bayard Long in the autumn of 1921. At that time I had had no formal training in botany, but was beginning to be interested in plants and was attempting to identify the species that I encountered in the suburbs of Philadelphia. I had purchased a copy of the 7th edition of Gray's Manual and found it rather hard going. In desperation I took some of my puzzles in to the Academy of Natural Sciences and inquired of a guard where I would find a botanist. I was directed to the Herbarium of the Philadelphia Botanical Club. There I met Mr. Long who quickly solved my problems, encouraged me to continue collecting and advised me to join the Philadelphia Botanical Club, which I promptly did. Thus began an association which

lasted for more than 40 years — a friendship cemented by countless field trips in the local and more distant areas.

As an undergraduate student in the early 20's I had become fascinated by the writings of M. L. Fernald and had read every word he had published in the pages of *Rhodora*. In particular was I excited by the accounts of his expeditions to New Brunswick, the Gaspé Peninsula, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. I begged Long, who had already been on several of these trips, to ascertain whether there would ever be an opportunity for me to become a member. It was entirely through his intercession that Professor Fernald invited me to join Long and him on a brief excursion to Newfoundland in 1926.

This was the summer of the Fourth International Congress at Ithaca, so we were unable to leave for Newfoundland until late in August. Three years later, in the summer of 1929, I was again privileged to join Fernald (with whom I had now taken my Doctor's degree) and Long on a much longer tour.

The events of these two trips were summarized by Fernald in an article entitled, "Recent Discoveries in the Newfoundland Flora", which occupied all twelve numbers of *Rhodora* for 1933 (Vol. 35).

In the 1930's I accompanied Fernald and Long on two collecting trips to the Coastal Plain of southeastern Virginia. The results of these trips were also published by Fernald in *Rhodora*.

Bayard Long's intellectual qualifications were such that he could doubtless have succeeded in any field of endeavor which appealed to him. He was an ardent philatelist, his specialty being British Colonies, a subject area which calls for keen powers of observation. His tastes in literature and music were exalted and he had a deep appreciation of natural beauty.

With it all Long was an extremely modest and almost painfully self-effacing individual. He appeared to shrink from human contacts, but once convinced of a person's sincere desire to learn, no effort was too great, no demands

on his time too exacting for him to render assistance and share his prodigious knowledge. Certainly no one has ever possessed his intimate acquaintance with the local flora, but he was equally at home in the field in Newfoundland and Virginia.

Long's first serious illness occurred in the early 1960's, although he continued to work at the Academy until the fall of 1962. Afterwards he was confined to his home in Elkins Park, where almost until the very end he continued by letter and telephone to answer the questions of those who called upon him for help.

PUBLICATIONS OF BAYARD LONG

1. Range extension of *Scirpus Smithii* var. *setosus*. *Rhodora* 12: 155-156. 1910.
2. *Pinus serotina* Michx. in southern New Jersey and other local notes. *Bartonia*. 2:17-21. 1910.
3. Certain species becoming well established at Ashbourne and elsewhere near Philadelphia. *Bartonia*. 3:22-25. 1911.
4. *Galium labradoricum* in Pennsylvania. *Rhodora*. 14:199, 1-200. 1912.
5. Some results of recent field work in the Cape May peninsula. *Bartonia*. 4:14-19. 1912.
6. Range extension in *Antennaria*. *Rhodora*. 15:117-122. 1913.
7. *Ludwigiantha brevipes* Long n.sp. Britton & Brown Illus. *Flora* Ed. 2. II:586. 1913.
8. (With Fernald) The American variations of *Potentilla palustris*. *Rhodora*. 16:5-11, pl. 106. 1914.
9. On the occurrence of Keeled Garlic in America. *Bartonia*. 7:6-16. 1915.
10. Discovery of *Prunus cuneata* in southern New Jersey. *Rhodora*. 18:66-70. 1916.
11. A belated correction. *Rhodora*. 18:142-143. 1916.
12. *Delphinium consolida* in America, with a consideration of the status of *Delphinium Ajacis*. *Rhodora*. 18:169-177. 1916.
13. Range of *Carex novae-angliae* extended into Pennsylvania. *Rhodora*. 19:96-100. 1917.
14. History of the American record of *Scirpus muconatus*. *Rhodora*. 20:41-48. 1918.
15. *Eragrostis peregrina* a frequent plant about Philadelphia. *Rhodora*. 20:173-180. 1918.
16. *Jasione montana* a conspicuous weed near Lakewood, New Jersey. *Rhodora*. 21:105-108. 1919.

17. The specific characters of *Eragrostis peregrina* and its two allies. *Rhodora*. 21:133-141. 1919.
18. Notes on the American occurrence of *Crepis biennis*. *Rhodora*. 21:209-214. 1919.
19. Regarding *Gentiana Andrewsii* in the coastal plain of New Jersey. 22:104-110. 1920.
20. A further note on *Crepis biennis*. *Rhodora*. 22:192, 193. 1920.
21. A station for *Croton glandulosus* in New Jersey. *Rhodora*. 23:221-223. 1921.
22. *Muscari comosum* a new introduction found in Philadelphia. *Rhodora*. 24:16-20. 1922.
23. Naturalized occurrence of *Prunus Padus* in America. *Rhodora*. 25:169-177. 1923.
24. Some changes in the aspect of the list of the Philadelphia flora. *Bartonia*. 8:12-32. 1924.
25. Some noteworthy indigenous species new to the Philadelphia area. *Bartonia*. 10:30-52. 1929.

PLANTS NAMED FOR BAYARD LONG

- Scirpus Longii* Fernald, *Rhodora* 13:6-8. 1911.
Cardamine Longii Fernald, *Rhodora* 19:91. 1917.
Carex Longii Mackenzie, *Bull. Torrey Bot. Club* 29:373. 1923.
Braya Longii Fernald, *Rhodora* 28:202. 1926.
Antennaria Longii Fernald, *Rhodora* 28:237. 1926 (1927).
Bryum Longii E. B. Bartram, *Rhodora* 30:6, 7. 1928.
Antennaria Bayardi Fernald, *Rhodora* 38:402. 1936.
Lycopus americanus Muhl., var. *Longii* Benner, *Bartonia* 16:46. 1934 (1935).
Malaxis Bayardi Fernald, *Rhodora* 38:402. 1936.
Juncus Longii Fernald, *Rhodora* 39:397. 1937.
Rubus Longii Fernald, *Rhodora* 40:434. 1938.
Carex Bayardi Fernald, *Rhodora* 44:71. 1942.
Xyris Bayardi Fernald, *Rhodora* 48:56. 1946.

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